

CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN  
ILLINOIS

COMMITTEES:  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS  
JUDICIARY  
SMALL BUSINESS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1303

January 18, 1994 '94 JAN 21 P3:39

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS OFFICE

Kluczynski Federal Building  
Suite 3996  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, IL 60604-1690

154191

REGIONAL

Ms. Mary Canavan  
Congressional/Intergovernmental Relations Officer  
Environmental Protection Agency  
77 West Jackson  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Dear Ms. Canavan:

I am enclosing a copy of an inquiry that I received from Richard and Diane McDonnell.

Because of this office's desire to be responsive to all communications, your consideration of the attached is requested.

Your findings and views will be appreciated.

Please Respond To:

Carla B. Vernón  
Constituent Assistant  
Carol Moseley-Braun, U.S.S.  
230 South Dearborn Street  
Chicago, IL 60604

Yours truly,



Carol Moseley-Braun  
United States Senator

CMB:cbv

enclosure

NOV 19 REC'D  
NY VERNON

Dear Senator Carol Moseley-Braun,

This letter concerns the toxic waste dump that we live near on Judith In and also runs through Walnut St. in Cahokia, Illinois called Dead Creek.

In the late 1980's EPA found there to be 30 different chemicals in Dead Creek. The chemicals had been dumped there for years by chemical plants before laws were made by government on toxic chemical disposal.

So in the 1980's EPA put an eight foot high fence around part of Dead Creek which runs from Judith In to Sunset. They also blocked the creek so that it would not drain through to the other side of the street in to the creek going south.

Therefore, because of the unusual amount of rainfall we have had this year it has filled up. The eastern part of our street and Walnut St. has flooded twice this year. Our mayor ordered the flooded water from these two streets to be pumped into the creek that is already full and blocked. As a result, both times the water ran over the street at Judith In.

It also ran over Querry Av. and got up to 2 ft. high.

We have asked the mayor (Mike King) not to pump the water in the blocked creek but he refuses to listen.

Since April of this year 1993 most of the residents on Judith Lane and Walnut St. have been pumping water from our basements. It is nonstop pumping for some of us. Our electric bills are high because of the pumping. Some of us have major foundation damage from all of the water seeping in from the floor. For most of us we have never had water in our basements before this year. The water table level has been high in Cahokia, but my husband and I were told by two contractors that the creek holding water is not helping our situation.

I have called EPA in Springfield and talked to a Stan Black (Public Relations.) I asked him about EPA draining the creek, and he told me they could not do that because of the contamination.

Not only do we have a very bad drainage problem but there is a very

strong chemical odor coming from the ditch, it is a mosquito haven, and there is always the fear of it backing up into our houses.

We also have concerns about our property value. Mr. Black from EPA told me if we put our house up for sale, we must tell people that are interested in buying, that we live by a toxic waste dump.

I doubt very seriously that we will be able to sell our.

Senator, EPA has tested the water in our basement twice this year and five other basements once.

We were told that our basement is not contaminated.

On one hand EPA is telling us we are in no health danger. And in the other they have their high fence up around the creek and tell us to warn prospective buyers of our property being close to a toxic waste dump.

We the people of Judith Ave and Walnut St. would hope that you can help us. This is a health and property issue.

Sincerely,  
109 Judith Ave / Diane & Rick McDonnell

John Brown  
Wm. & Son  
Charles M. Brown

104 113 SOUTH LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

106 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

100 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

102 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

104 Walnut St.

117 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

116 Walnut St.

121 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

101 Walnut St.

102 Walnut St.

109 Walnut St.

103 Walnut St.

105 Walnut St.

105 SOUTH LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

113 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

113 1/2 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

102 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

104 Walnut St.

117 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

116 Walnut St.

121 South LAKE CIRCLE, ILL.

101 Walnut St.

102 Walnut St.

109 Walnut St.

103 Walnut St.

105 Walnut St.